

HACSB FACTSHEET

Moving to Work | OVERVIEW

HCV LANDLORDS

In March 2008, the Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino (HACSB) became one of only one percent of housing authorities nationwide to be designated a Moving to Work (MTW) demonstration site by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

MTW is a demonstration program that allows housing authorities to design and test ways to: 1) promote self-sufficiency among assisted families; 2) achieve programmatic efficiency and reduce costs; and 3) increase housing choices for low-income households. As an MTW agency, HACSB will have the opportunity to implement new policies outside the usual scope of HUD policies and regulations.

As an MTW demonstration site, HACSB is able to transform its programs and services to empower families and individuals to achieve an enriched quality of life.

What does this mean for Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Landlords? The following changes will directly apply to HCV Landlords:

CONTROLLED PROGRAM MOVES:

- **New policy:** HACSB will limit *voluntary* program moves for HCV participants to once every two years, only at the time of annual recertification and upon verification from their land-



lord that they are a tenant in good standing. This policy limits the number of times a program participant can move and when the participant can move. There are certain exceptions: a unit is in foreclosure, a participant gets a job or attends school more than 20 miles from their current residence.

- **Previous policy:** Pursuant to HUD regulations, HCV participants can move at any time after the initial term of the lease and under certain circumstances during the initial term of the lease.

LOCAL INSPECTION STANDARDS: *

- **New policy:** HACSB will develop an A to F property rating system. This rating system will determine the frequency of inspections assigned to a property;



OUR MISSION

The Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino empowers all individuals and families in need to achieve an enriched quality of life by providing housing opportunities and resources throughout San Bernardino County.

OUR CORE VALUES

Respect | We believe that all people should have a stable and enriched quality of life and should be afforded the opportunity to not only survive, but to thrive in environments that are sensitive to and encourage respect and empathy for individual circumstances.

Safety | We believe that all residents deserve a safe and secure living environment that is crime and distraction free and where families can feel good about raising their children.

Integrity | We believe that there is a strong, mutually-reinforcing connection between the integrity of our staff/programs and the success of our clients. Integrity-building within our organization is key toward fulfilling our mission statement.

Service | We believe that in order to be successful we must serve the public by being effective stewards of its financial resources and by developing a customer service business model based on benchmarks and measurements.

only properties that receive an “A” will be entitled to inspections every two years, others may even be inspected up to twice a year. The Housing Authority will not renew the contracts with those property owners whose properties score a “D” or “F”. This activity will increase the quality housing choice options for low-income families, as well as reduce the administrative burden to both HACSB and landlords.

- **Previous policy:** In order to qualify, HCV rental properties must meet current HUD regulations for Housing Quality Standards (HQS).

LOCAL POLICIES FOR PORTABILITY:

- **New policy:** All individuals moving into and out of HACSB’s jurisdiction (the County of San Bernardino) will have to comply with the MTW policies and requirements. Applicants must lease up in HACSB’s jurisdiction for at least two years before a request to move will be considered.

- **Previous policy:** HACSB voucher participants could move to any geographical jurisdiction where there is a housing agency that administers a Housing Choice Voucher Program.



MINIMUM RENT:

- **New policy:** HACSB has adopted a new minimum rent amount of \$125.00. Pursuant to HUD regulations, if 30 percent of the monthly adjusted household income is less than the established minimum rent, the total tenant payment toward rent and utilities will be increased to \$125.00. A temporary waiver policy has been established for families who demonstrate a hardship in paying the increased required minimum amount. In order to qualify for a temporary waiver, the family’s income must have decreased due to a no fault loss of employment or the death of a household member.

- **Previous policy:** The previous minimum rent amount was \$50.00

The Housing Authority is transitioning to implement the various activities to achieve the goals listed above. Some activities are well underway, and others are still pending HUD approval. A complete list and details of the various activities can be found at www.hacsb.com.

*Pending HUD approval by September 30, 2009

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